

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A cementitious composition comprising
 - i) ~~a cationically modified or a secondary or tertiary amino modified cellulose ether or~~
 - ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12%.
2. (Currently amended) A cementitious composition comprising
 - i) ~~a cationically modified or a secondary or tertiary amino modified cellulose ether or~~
 - ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the hydroxyethoxyl substituent has been introduced into the cellulose material in two or more stages.
3. (Withdrawn) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether i) is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl celluloses, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses, hydroxy- C_{3-4} -alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses, and carboxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses.
4. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one of more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 %.
5. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is either from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose is up to 8.5% or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted

anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5%.

6. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 3000 to 7500 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

7. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

8. (Withdrawn) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether i) is a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified hydroxyethyl cellulose.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Withdrawn) A cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitutions $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of subsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12% and the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 3,000 to 10, 000 mPa's, measured as a 1% weight aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield LVT viscometer as described in ASTM method D-2364.

11. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of Claim 10 wherein the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 3,000 to 7,500 mPa's.

12. (Withdrawn) A cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12% and the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2 weight% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield LVT viscometer as described in ASTM method D-2364.

13. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of claim 12 wherein the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 1 to 1000 mPa's
14. (Canceled)
15. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of Claim 10 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 %.
16. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of Claim 10 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is either from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5 %.
17. (Withdrawn) A method of controlling the curing time of a cellulose ether-comprising cementitious composition wherein i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 %, or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12%,
is incorporated into the cementitious composition.
18. (Withdrawn) A method of controlling the curing time of a cellulose ether- comprising cementitious composition wherein
i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or
ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one of more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the hydroxyethoxyl substituent has been introduced into the cellulose material in two or more stages,

is incorporated into the cementitious composition.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 100 to 20,000 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt. % aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

21. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 100 to 20,000 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt. % aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

22. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 3000 to 7500 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

23. (Previously presented) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

24. (Withdrawn) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether i) is a cationically-modified or secondary or tertiary amino-modified hydroxyethyl cellulose.

25. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of Claim 12 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5%.

26. (Withdrawn) The cellulose ether of Claim 12 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is ether from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5% or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5%.